

Getting It Together

The two ways to set up the snare drum depend on which grip you are using. Matched Grip = level drum set-up. Traditional Grip = angled drum set-up.

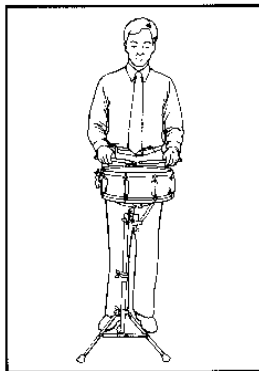
Step 1 - Open the bottom legs of the snare drum stand. Lock them into place by tightening the tripod base screw. Grasp the bar and raise stand below your waist. Tighten the height adjustment screw and lock into place.

Step 2 - Put the two support bars closest together in front of you. Be certain they are even. If your stand has an adjustable arm, it should point away from you and be extended. The bars should be parallel to the ground. Tighten the angle adjustment screw.

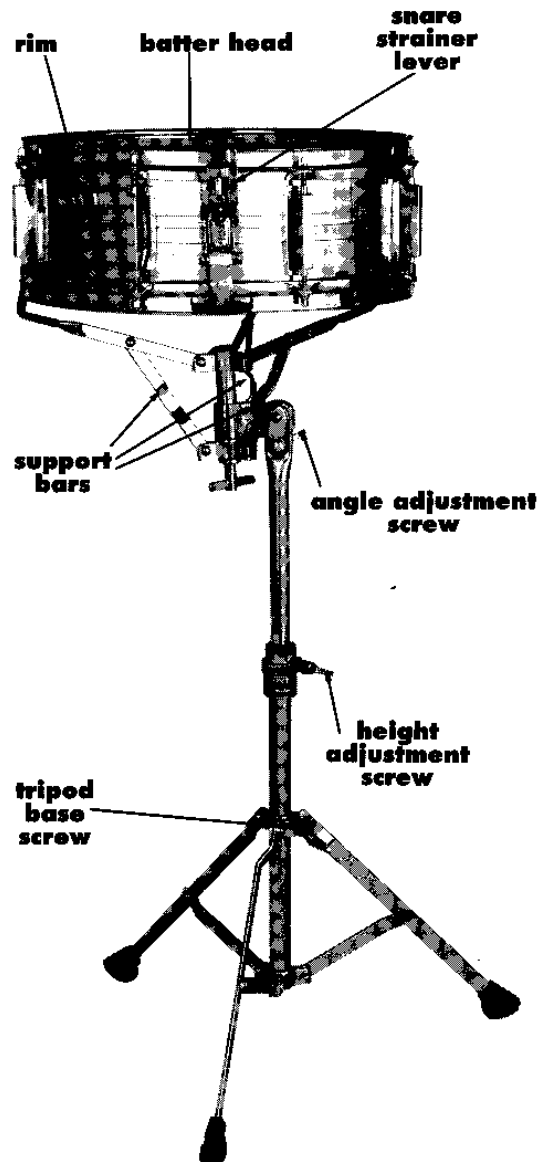
Step 3 - Carefully place the snare drum in the stand so the snare strainer faces you.

Step 4 - Slide the adjustable arm until it fits snugly against the shell of the drum. The top batter head should be slightly below your waist. Lock your drum stand into position. Tighten all screws each time you play.

Step 5 - Tighten the snare strainer. Tap the head of the snare drum. If the sound is not crisp, tighten or loosen the tension control screw. The snares should rest lightly against the bottom head. Stand by the drum as shown:



MATCHED GRIP SNARE DRUM SET-UP



Let's Play!

This special exercise is just for snare drummers. Use the sticking action described on page 2, and "pull" the sound out of the drum head. At your teacher's direction, play the following exercise: Try this exercise several times.



THE BASICS

Posture

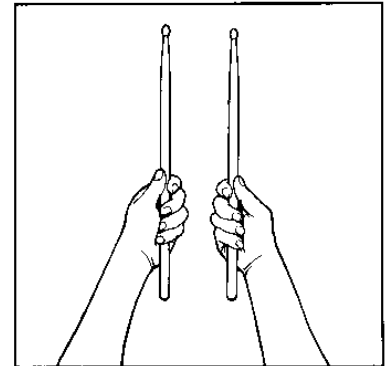
Stand near your instrument, and always keep your:

- Spine straight and tall
- Shoulders back and relaxed
- Feet flat on the floor

Matched Grip (A Natural Stick Position)

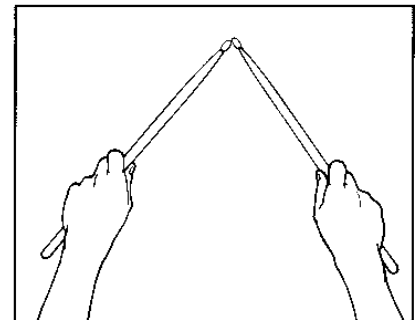
Every percussion instrument requiring sticks or mallets can be played with this basic grip. Both sticks or mallets are held exactly the same “matched” way.

- Place the sticks in front of you with the tip of the sticks pointing forward.
- Extend your right hand as if shaking hands with someone.
- Pick up the right stick with your thumb and index finger about 1/3 from the end of the stick.
- The curve of your index finger's top knuckle and the thumb hold the stick in place, creating a pivot point.
- Gently curve your other fingers around the stick.
- Check to be sure the stick is cradled in the palm of your hand.
- Turn your hand palm-down to a comfortable resting position.
- Follow the same procedure for your left hand.



Practice & Performance Position

- Put the practice pad on a flat surface slightly below your waist.
- Stand up straight with your arms relaxed at your side. Raise your forearms by bending your elbows.
- Form the outline of a slice of pie with the sticks about 2 inches above the practice pad.
- Move your wrists to raise the sticks 6-8 inches from the practice pad. This is the “up” position.
- Begin with your right hand. Strike near the center using a quick, reflex-like wrist action. Let the stick return to the “up” position to prepare for the next strike.
- Follow with your left hand, and strike about 1 inch away from your first right hand strike. Return to the “up” position.
- When resting, keep the sticks about 2 inches above the practice pad in the outline of a slice of pie.



Sticking Work-Outs

R = Right hand stick

L = Left hand stick

Play the following sticking work-out on your practice pad keeping an even pulse when playing and resting:

● = Strike near the center of the practice pad.

R L R L | REST | R L R L | REST |

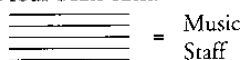
● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

Use of Music
Tap foot down on the
and up on the "&." Count and
when playing or resting.

Count 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
Tap ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑

Staff, Bar Lines & Measures

Bar lines divide the music staff into
measures. The measures on this page
have four beats each.

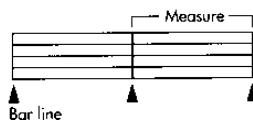


NOTES & RESTS

Notes tell us how high or low to play
and how long to play. Notes are placed
on a line or space of the music staff.

Rests tell us to count silent beats.

Fermata Hold the note longer, or until
your director tells you to
release it.



Quarter Note = 1 Beat
 Quarter Rest = 1 Silent Beat

Sticking Methods There are several sticking methods used when playing snare drum. In this book, **A** = Alternate or hand to hand
sticking and **WB** = Wrist Builder exercises. Carefully follow the written sticking.

Playing Rests Drummers often "play rests" by stopping the stick just before it strikes the batter head.
Playing rests as silent notes will help you maintain a steady pulse.

1. COUNT AND PLAY



Count 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
Tap ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑

► To help everyone in the band, try counting out loud when playing these exercises.

2. A NEW NOTE



1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑

3. TWO'S A TEAM



1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑

4. THE NEXT NOTE



1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑

5. DOWN AND UP



1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑

6. ROLLING ALONG



1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &



1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &